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FOREIGN NEWS ON APPLES

REVIEW OF BRITISH AND SCANDINAVIAN APPLE MARKETS

The following report dated October 26 on the British and Scandinavian apple markets has been received in the Foreign Service of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics from Mr. Edwin Smith, Fruit Specialist of the Department of Agriculture in Europe:

General outlook

The high quality, good condition and liberal supplies of American apples, together with the low prices resulting from the recent market depression, should cause good consumption of apples in Great Britain, Denmark, and Sweden, during the autumn months. Light supplies of apples grown in England and in the west of Europe should act with the present low prices of American apples to cause a volume consumption throughout the winter. The one source of competition not fully accounted for is Russian-grown fruit. Last year Russia exported approximately 225,000 boxes of apples. This is not an important factor when all markets are considered, but, owing to the fact that it is estimated that about a quarter of this quantity was exported to Swedish markets, this unmeasured competition does present some concern as regards Sweden.

Great Britain

At the present time the supplies of English-grown apples have been largely reduced to a few high-priced Cox's Orange Pippins for eating purposes and to Lane's Princes Albert and Bramley's Seedling for culinary purposes. This class of apples is much less in evidence in the British retail markets and shops than was the case last year at this time. Moreover, the quantity of poorly colored and inferior apples from Nova Scotia seen in the bins of the retailers is very much smaller than during the autumn of 1927. The abundance of highly colored boxed Jonathans and Virginia York Imperials has given the retail shops a much brighter hue in the apple section than has been observed in several years.

While the English crop of apples is smaller than it was last year, it is generally in better condition and has a finer appearance. The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries has made splendid progress in improving the pack of English apples. The new national mark, which is used on apples graded according to the specifications of the Ministry and packed in boxes which bear attractive labels, is to be seen in all of the larger markets. The Ministry has a demonstration grader, which has been taken from one orchard district to another in motor trucks for the purpose of giving pack-

Introduction

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The purpose of this document is to provide a comprehensive overview of the project's objectives, scope, and deliverables.

This document is intended for the project team and stakeholders. It outlines the project's goals, the scope of work, and the expected outcomes. The document is organized into several sections, each covering a different aspect of the project.

The project is a complex endeavor that requires the coordination of various resources and the execution of a series of tasks. The project team is responsible for ensuring that the project is completed on time and within budget. The project manager will oversee the project and ensure that all tasks are completed as planned.

The project will be managed using a project management software tool. This tool will allow the project manager to track the progress of the project and ensure that all tasks are completed on time. The project manager will also use the tool to communicate with the project team and stakeholders.

The project will be completed by the end of the year. The project team will be responsible for ensuring that the project is completed on time and within budget. The project manager will oversee the project and ensure that all tasks are completed as planned.

ing demonstrations and illustrating how English apples may be sized and packed in boxes according to the standards set up by the Government. Many commission merchants, as well as many growers, ridiculed the idea of packing English apples and predicted failure before the experiment was started. However, these individuals were destined for a surprise since English apples, packed with the national mark, have arrived upon the market in quantities larger than they anticipated and have sold for surprisingly high prices. These prices have been higher than for American boxed apples and have paid the English growers very handsomely for their efforts.

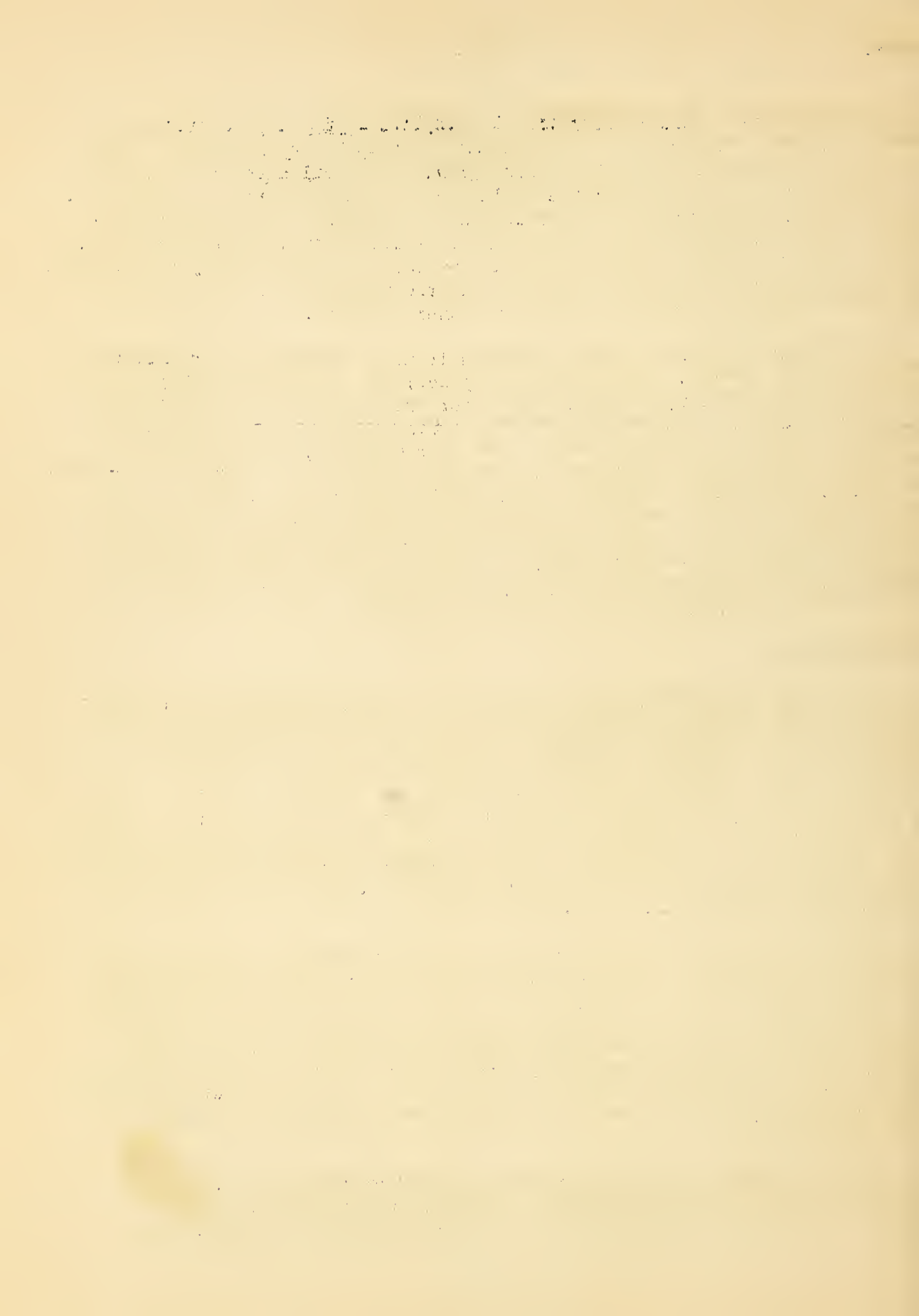
Packing in boxes in Great Britain is not so impossible as most people would at first think. Apple boxes are practically as cheap as they are in the Pacific Northwest, being purchased for from 14 cents to 15 cents each. Labor for packing is surprisingly cheap. Girls suitable for instruction in packing are paid 10 cents per hour. One large packer, who has packed in boxes for seven years, stated that all of his packing house expenses, including material and labor, amounted to $1/3$ (30 cents) per box. This cost is very much below what it would be in any of the boxed apple districts of the United States. Whereas apples packed under the national label have been selling for from 15/- to 20/- (\$3.65 to \$4.87) per box, ordinary Bramleys shipped to Covent Garden in returnable bushel sieves (wicker baskets) have been selling for from 8/- to 12/- (\$1.95 to \$2.92).

Dessert apples

Although home-grown dessert apples are in light supply, there is no shortage in the dessert section of the trade. During the months of August and September the Worcester Pearmain is offered for sale by most British shopkeepers and constitutes an important part of the trade. However, after the bulk of this fruit has passed into consumption, English apples are in the minority and, even before the first of October, Bonum, Jonathan, Wealthy and Gravenstein from the Atlantic Coast of the United States and Canada make up the supplies of dessert apples. During October, Jonathans from the Pacific Coast and York Imperials from the Potomac Valley section also are used heavily for dessert purposes.

This year imported dessert apples are very plentiful. Imported boxed apples have exceeded the demand and importers are losing money on lots purchased at prices as low as 90 cents f.o.b. The only section of the dessert apple trade which is showing encouraging prices is that of Oregon Newtowns, and this is due to the fact that California Newtowns were harvested in an immature state and have not satisfied the consumer. Up to the present time, quantities of Oregon Newtowns have been very small and constitute a specialty, so that the prices on this variety have been above the general level of dessert apple values.

The low retail prices on Jonathans and York Imperials and their generally good keeping condition should stimulate the consumption of apples and make for healthier conditions in the market than exist at the present time.



Culinary apples

In previous notes it has been mentioned that the shortage in the English Bramley Seedling crop should react favorably upon the demand for Rhode Island Greenings during the coming season. Although large-sized York Imperials are used for culinary purposes, they do not answer the demand of those who are particular about the quality of cooking apples taken into the house. Nevertheless, recent prices of large-sized York Imperials have shown that this culinary demand exists, even for this variety. The prices of the large-sized York Imperials have held their own and even kept slightly above the price of $2\frac{1}{4}$ inch fruit during the recent depression.

The first trial of New York State Rhode Island Greenings for this season was made in the Liverpool market during this week. It was observed that, for the best lots, prices from 27/- to 30/- (\$6.57 to \$7.30) were possible even in the face of the general depression in the apple market. Apples of not so desirable a quality made from 25/- to 27/- (\$6.08 to \$6.57). It was interesting to note that the auction buyers did not show so much enthusiasm for Rhode Island Greenings which opened up with splendid blush as they did for lots having a little less color, but being of a bright green. The Rhode Island Greening is a favorite apple for mincemeat, and the mincemeat season will exist between the middle of November and the middle of December. Moderate quantities of this variety will be in demand during this period.

The port of Hull ordinarily receives more Continental apples than go to most other British ports. This year, receivers at that point state that they have never known supplies of apples and pears to be so short. This should affect the demand in the northeast section of England.

Norway

The apple crop of Norway has been a very good one and supplies of home-grown apples have been in Norwegian markets during the autumn. Trade in American apples throughout Norway has been very light. The Government of Norway imposes an import duty of 60 gold crowns per kilogram (\$7.18 per 100 pounds) from August until February 1. For the balance of the year the import duty on apples is only half this amount. This duty is to protect home-grown apples. During the 1926 and 1927 seasons the Norwegian Government changed the date from February 1 to January 1 and December 1 respectively because of the fact that the Norwegian apple crops were light. Unless the home-grown apples in Norway are consumed faster than the Government anticipates, it is not probable that this date will be changed this year, so that the demand for American apples will be restricted to late winter varieties which may be imported after February 1. For this reason the movement to Norway is not apt to start in any great volume until the month of January, so that arrivals may be made after the period of high import duty..

Sweden

Restrictions in Sweden are not so serious as they are in Norway, so that this handicap does not apply in the larger country to the east. However, Sweden is more affected by the importation of Russian apples and these apples have a very decided effect upon American boxed apples up until the New Year.

It is probable that the trade in such varieties as Winesaps will be somewhat dependent upon the outcome of the importers' results with Jonathans. As the first arrivals of Jonathans are only just beginning to filter through to the country districts of Sweden, it is too early to form any opinion upon the outcome of this trade.

Denmark

Although the Swedish apple trade is affected by imported supplies from such countries as Holland, Czechoslovakia and Italy, it is not affected to such an extent as is the trade in Denmark. Supplies from these countries flow very freely to Copenhagen in years of good crops. Shortage in supplies of Continental apples has sharpened the demand in Copenhagen for American barrels and boxes. This has resulted in good prices for the moderate supplies of American apples which have been sent to Copenhagen thus far this season.

There is one feature of the Scandinavian trade which should not be lost sight of this year. This relates to the exceptionally good condition of American apples arriving in Great Britain and Germany. During many seasons in the past the arrivals of barreled apples from the eastern states and Jonathans from the Pacific Northwest have suffered so through over-ripeness from excessive heat during transit that their condition did not warrant re-shipping to Scandinavian markets. This year the majority of the arrivals of both boxed Jonathans and barreled York Imperials and Ben Davis are sufficiently firm to enable extensive re-shipment. The present low prices in Great Britain are favoring re-shipment of supplies to Copenhagen. This fluid state of apple supplies will tend to cause Danish prices to come to a level with those in Great Britain. Similar changes may be expected as regards prices and supplies in German markets.

